(e) what are the other recommendations of the Committee and what steps Government are going to take on these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) The level of prices of commodities is determined largely by a variety of factors operating on the demand and supply side. These include domestic production, arrivals in the market, quantity of imports, international prices, consumption requirements, expectation regarding behaviour of prices. etc. Therefore, arrival of new stock of crops in the market may not always result in a decline in prices. Retail prices of wheat have registered a decline at 3 centres in the country in the recent past out of 18 centres monitored by this Department. Similarly, retail prices of gram dal have registered a decline at 5 centres in the country.

(c) and (d) The 19th Report of the Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (2006-07) in Chapter 6 has, *inter alia*, observed that "in order to control the prices of foodgrains, the Government have issued a new Control Order on 29th August, 2006 to authorize the State Government to fix the stock limit in case of wheat and pulses and empower them to initiate action against the hoarding of the these commodities."

(e) The other recommendations are contained in the 19th Report of the Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (2006-07), which has been laid on the Table of the House on 27.4.07. As regards the steps taken by the Government on the recommendations, an Action Taken Report is being compiled and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Foodgrains stock in FCI godown

4028. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) what was the stock of foodgrains in the godowns of the Food Corporation of India during the las three years, year-wise and till date;

(b) the total quantum of foodgrains released and lifted for export during that period, year-wise;

(c) whether foodgrains were released to the exporters at a subsidized rate;

(d) if so, the details of subsidy given to the exporters during that period, year-wise; and

(e) the details of release, offtake and selling price of foodgrains under the Public Distribution System during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The foodgrains stock in the Central Pool during the last three years was as under:—

(Figures in lakh tonnes)

Foodgrain	As on 1.4.2005	As on 1.4.2006	As on 1.4.2007	As on 1.5.2007
Rice	133.41	136.75	131.72	134.81
Wheat	40.66	20.09	45.63	116.00
TOTAL:	174.07	156.84	177.35	250.81

(b) The wheat and rice lifted for export from FCI are shown below:—

(Figures in lakh tonnes)

Years	Wheat	Rice	Total
2004-05	7.45*	0.90*	8.35*
2005-06	Nil	Nil	Nil
2006-07	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL:	7.45	0.90	8.35

*Issue of fresh allocations/release orders for export of wheat and rice were stopped *w.e.f.* 11th August, 2003.

(c) and (d) The amount of subsidy incurred in the sale of wheat and rice for export during the past three years is as under:—

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Total
2004-05	981.03
2005-06#	14.55
2006-07#	138.41

#Subsidy released for exports during 2005-06 and 2006-07 is on account of past years arrears released in these years.

(e) The details of allocation and offtake of foodgrains (Rice and Wheat) under TPDS during the last three years is as under:-

(Figures in lakh tonnes)

Year	Allocation	Offtake
2004-05	716.99	293.55
2005-06	716.21	311.05
2006-07	576.59	313.79

The foodgrains are issued at Central Issue Prices (CIPS) under the TPDS. The Price applicable during the period are as under:

Commodity	APL (Rs. per Qtl)	BPL (Rs. per Qtl)	AAY (Rs. per Qtl)
Rice** (i) Common	795	565	300
(ii) Grade A	830	565	300
Wheat**	610	415	200

**Applicable from 1.7.2002.

Procurement of wheat by FCI

4029. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that farmers are not selling wheat to the Food Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) how many outlets have been opened to procure wheat by FCI; and

(d) what action is being contemplated to procure adequate wheat in order to provide fair distribution through Fair Price Shops of Government in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH):